

# Vermont System Planning Committee

*Ensuring full, fair and timely consideration of non-transmission alternatives to address Vermont electric system reliability challenges.*



**SPECIAL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 13, 2012  
9:30 A.M.–NOON  
VT PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY AUTHORITY  
WATERBURY CENTER, VERMONT**

# Agenda



- **Introductions**
- **Ad hoc process improvement group report**
  - Brief recap of PSB order modifying and approving amendments to Docket 7081 MOU
  - Action item: Proposed approach to reviewing/revising VSPC NTA Screening Tool
- **2012 Vermont Long-Range Transmission Plan update**
  - Review of draft Plan (Hantz Pr sum )
  - Questions, discussion, feedback
  - Suggestions for improvements to be incorporated into public review draft
  - Review of schedule and next steps
- **Adjourn**

# Process Improvement



**RECAP OF PSB ORDER APPROVING MOU  
AMENDMENTS WITH MODIFICATIONS**

**PROPOSED APPROACH TO REVIEWING/  
REVISING VSPC NTA SCREENING TOOL**

# First modification: In 3 amendment, clarifies that VELCO remains responsible for Vermont system planning.



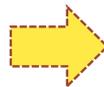
## AMENDS ¶6

### As proposed

In preparing the plan, VELCO will be responsible, to the extent not incorporated into ISO-NE's analyses, for assessing forecasted demand, supply conditions, system configurations, and usage levels of the Bulk system and Subsystem in determining whether Reliability Deficiencies exist or will arise, accounting for local or regional changes in load with implications for the assessment. In preparing its own forecast to use in making the assessment, VELCO will use the best data reasonably available, and may utilize demand and supply forecasts and related information, prepared by other entities, such as DPS, DUs, and ISO-NE, as well as demand-side savings projected by the EEU.

### As approved

In preparing the plan, VELCO will be responsible for assessing forecasted demand, supply conditions, system configurations, and usage levels of the Bulk system and Subsystem in determining whether Reliability Deficiencies exist or will arise, accounting for local or regional changes in load with implications for the assessment. In preparing its own forecast to use in making the assessment, VELCO will use the best data reasonably available, and may utilize demand and supply forecasts and related information, prepared by other entities, such as DPS, DUs, and ISO-NE, as well as demand-side savings projected by the EEU. In performing these actions, VELCO may utilize, to the extent appropriate, any relevant ISO-NE analyses.



## Second modification: Retains requirement that VELCO identify the lead DU in Long-Range Plan updates



- Requires VELCO to file for Board approval either
  - Revised language for ¶28 retaining the identification of the lead Distribution Utility; or
  - Justify why the requirement should be deleted.
- VELCO proposes to file the following revision:
  - 28. VELCO will release the Draft Transmission Plan for public review; such Draft Transmission Plan shall include all of the components required under 30 V.S.A. §218c(d), components ~~those~~ set forth in paragraph 4 through 6 of this MOU, and identification of the Lead DU assigned to oversee and coordinate the tasks necessary to complete Step 8.
    - ✦ This language restores the former 28(i).

## Third modification: Declines to designate SPEED Facilitator as voting VSPC member



- **Board's rationale:**

- "...SPEED Facilitator is currently under contract to the Board. Thus the SPEED Facilitator does not function independently of the Board, so it is unclear on what basis and under what authority the SPEED Facilitator would exercise its VSPC voting rights.
- "...VSPC responsibilities include review of reliability deficiencies and possible solutions that may eventually come before the Board...accordingly, it would be inappropriate for the Board's contractor to vote on such matters."

Docket 7081 Order of 1/30/12 at 10.

## Fourth modification: Clarifies natural gas efficiency entity not included as VSPC voting member.



- Modifies the first sentence of paragraph 73, concerning voting privileges of energy efficiency utilities, as follows:
  - 73. Each entity appointed by the Board under 30 V.S.A. ¶ 209(d) to deliver System-wide Programs shall also appoint a voting participant to the VSPC, except for an entity appointed to deliver only natural-gas efficiency services.

# PSB seeks clarification: Is intent of ¶ 51 amendment that VSPC regularly reports to VSPC?



- Amended ¶ 51 states that the VSPC shall report quarterly to the VSPC, and annually to the Board and Department, on progress in relation to project specific action plans. The Board seeks clarification of whether the intent was self-reporting.
- Proposed answer is yes. The intention of the amendments was to include updates on project plans in each quarterly meeting agenda. This parallels two provisions in the original MOU:
  - 48. For each NTA Analysis, the Vermont Utility responsible for conducting or overseeing the conduct of the analysis ***shall regularly report to the VSPC on the status of preparation of the analysis.***
  - 85. The VSPC shall refer each Reliability Deficiency identified in the Plan, or otherwise through the process described in Steps 1 through 6, above, to the Affected Utility or Utilities identified in Step 7. ***The Lead DU under any project decision-making structure shall regularly report the status of efforts to analyze, select, and implement solutions to the Reliability Deficiency, and to allocate the costs of those solutions.*** (emphasis added)
- Clarification due to PSB by April 30, 2012.

# VSPC must update NTA screening tool



- Update due to PSB by 7/30/12.
  - If not revised “despite good-faith efforts” by due deadline, status report and estimate of filing date due by 7/30/12.
  - Revision process must include defining “impracticable” and “uneconomic” as used in ¶ 21.
  - Comments on the definitions will be due two weeks from the date the definitions are filed.

# PSB to close Docket 7081



- PSB proposes to close Docket after additional filings required by the 1/30/12 order are acted on. (Likely July or August, 2012).
  - Comments on intention to close the docket were due by 2/10/12.
- Within one month from final rulings by Board in the Docket, VELCO must file complete, searchable, extractable electronic version of amended MOU.

# Ad Hoc Process Improvement Group recommendation for process to revise NTA Screening Tool



- Ad Hoc group asked by VSPC in Dec to propose an approach to reviewing/revising the NTA screening tool.
- Recommendation of the Ad Hoc Group:
  - Reconstitute the NTA Screening Tool Subcommittee, with Bruce Bentley again chairing, to develop proposed revision (including definitions of “impracticable” and “uneconomic”) for VSPC consideration at June meeting.
- Participation open to any VSPC member as the group re-forms.

# Future Meeting Dates



March 14, 2012 – Burlington

June 13, 2012 - Montpelier

September 12, 2012 - Rutland

December 12, 2012 – Burlington